

# Buckeye Flyer



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Staff Sgt. Benjamin Bratka, 445th Airlift Wing, shows off baby Emma to Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Kollmann during the 445th Yellow Ribbon Pre-deployment Town Hall meeting. (Air Force photo/Laura Darden)

## Wing kicks off Yellow Ribbon Program

By Maj. Cynthia Harris  
445th Public Affairs

More than 90 445th Airlift Wing reservists and their families attended the first pre-deployment Yellow Ribbon Program Town Hall meeting Nov 18 and 19 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Fairborn.

The 445th Deployed Support Team provided information on care plans and family counseling, Tricare, day care, legal matters, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, marriage enrichment, community outreach and other services available to deploying members and their families.

Hosted by an Air Force Reserve Command unit, the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program is a congressionally legislated directive that dictates that National Guard and Reserve members and their families receive deployment support and reintegration programs "to minimize to the extent practicable the stresses of military service, particularly the stress of deployment and family separation."

"The 445th Deployed Support Team worked hard to host a dynamic, highly educational and enjoyable pre-deployment town hall for members and their families," said Chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Kollmann.

Col. Stephen Goeman, the 445th Airlift Wing commander, welcomed the group and assured them that the 445th would take care of their families.

"Air Force Reserve Command has been very effective in deploying our Airmen, but we can do better in the area of caring for our families," he said. "This program will provide Air Force Reserve Command and the 445th Airlift Wing more resources to take care of our military families because we are a family. It will enable us to take care of our families before, during and after deployments."

The program stipulates that deployment support and reintegration programs are provided in all phases

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## Commentary

# A Holiday Message . . .

By Col. Stephen D. Goeman  
445th Airlift Wing Commander

As we move into the month of December let us pause and take note of the extraordinary accomplishments of the men and women of the



Col. Stephen Goeman

445th Airlift Wing. You started a memorable 2008 with a hugely successful Wing Operational Readiness Inspection; what a great feeling to score so well on such a demanding test for the entire wing. Those many mandays and extended hours spent in preparing for all aspects of this inspection paid off for the Buckeye Wing.

Your spirit of volunteerism permeates the entire wing; hundreds of you have stood up and took on an extended deployment this past year. You did this with little fanfare and this country owes each of our Citizen Airmen thanks for a job well done for your display of "Service Before Self." Many individual awards and honors were received; however it is those unit and squadron level awards which are even more noteworthy. These group awards honor our commitment to our team, our 445th family, our wingmen in this superb airlift wing.

Early in the year our maintenance group was chosen as the James K. Clouse Award winners signifying the best overall maintenance unit in all of 4th Air Force. Our hardworking maintainers worked hand in hand with our aircrews and ensured that this wing flew its command directed flying hour's program; no small feat while maintaining and flying the C-5 Galaxy!

Our 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron is recognized over and over again. Your 2008 Health

Service Inspection completed this past September received the highest score on record for an AES unit, OUTSTANDING was the grade, the best you can do. It is no wonder in November you were honored with the Shafer Trophy as the number one medical unit in all of Air Force Reserve Command.

The 87th Aerial Port Squadron was best APS in 4th AF. Stop by their squadron and look at the mural on their wall which captures the many awards this unit has received. The 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron was named AFRC Outstanding Large Aeromedical Staging Squadron, great people doing great things for our Air Force Reserve.

Each and every unit in this wing of nearly 2000 Airmen makes a contribution. In July of this year Chief Mouser and I were able to accept on your behalf the Raincross Trophy denoting the number one wing in all of 4th Air Force. You all are indeed the best of the best and you should be proud of your accomplishments.

As autumn fades to winter I ask each and every one of you to find and make the time to spend time with your families and friends and celebrate this wondrous holiday season. When you celebrate with your loved ones I ask one more thing of you, please keep the faith and remember your fellow Airmen and their families from the 445th Airlift Wing who are deployed at this time and continue to serve. We look forward to welcoming them back in early 2009 and celebrate their service. Kristin and I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year.

## Be a blessing to others

By Chaplain Maj. Bill Dickens  
445th Chaplain

As a child, I remember this time of year being very exciting. All the houses in our neighborhood were decorated with lights, wreaths and Christmas trees. We also looked forward to getting out of school for a couple of weeks. Finally, there was Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, when we went to my grandparent's houses and opened all the presents, hoping we got what we asked for. In most cases we did.

Grandparents are just that way.

Now that I am older, my priorities have shifted somewhat. I still enjoy seeing all the houses decorated and I even enjoy decorating my own (although, every year my roof seems to get further and further from the ground). But you know, my focus has shifted when it comes to presents. I get more joy from people opening presents from me, than opening them myself.

Just as the real meaning of Christmas, for the Christian, is about receiving the gift of the Savior; spend this holiday season looking for ways you can give to others. Whether it is a neighbor, friend, family member or stranger, you will be blessed by being a blessing to others. The Bible tells us in Second Corinthians 2:9 that "God loves a cheerful giver." Finish out 2008 "cheerfully" making a difference in someone's life. Happy Holidays!

## Buckeye Flyer 445th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve Command)

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## Yellow Ribbon Program

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of deployment: pre-deployment, deployment, demobilization and post-deployment and reconstitution.

One provision of the Department of Defense program requires National Guard and Reserve components to hold reintegration activities at 30-, 60- and 90-day intervals after demobilization or the end of a deployment for all members who were mobilized or deployed for 90 days or more. The law goes on to state that reservists must receive appropriate pay and allowances for attending these deployment support and reintegration activities and that family members also should attend the events.

Members and their families said they were pleased with the town hall meeting.

"After going through the pre-deployment town hall briefings, my family feels more informed and at ease about my deployment," said Tech. Sgt. Nathan Lowman, 445th Maintenance Operations Flight.

His wife, Cynthia, said "the entire experience from start to finish was outstanding."

Christopher Kaus, the husband of Maj. Anna Kaus, 445th Aerospace Medicine Squadron, also expressed his satisfaction with the program.

"The pre-deployment town hall was a great opportunity to prepare for my wife's deployment," he said. "It improved our knowledge of issues we had considered and brought to light some of the things we hadn't considered."

The Kauses attended the meeting with their two children and said they were very pleased with the childcare that was provided.

"The childcare was outstanding and the facility was outstanding," Maj. Kaus said.

Chaplain Kollmann expressed his gratitude for the support the 445th received from the Fairborn church that hosted the event and for the support volunteers there provided.

"The facility was outstanding for our needs with childcare, food and round table interaction for members and families," he said. "Volunteers at Fairborn's St. Luke United Methodist Church gave tremendous, loving care to our deployed members and their families." *(No federal endorsement intended)*

## Air Force Reserve Commander shares holiday wishes

*By Lt. Gen. Charles E. Stenner Jr.  
Air Force Reserve Command Commander*

WASHINGTON – As we look forward to this Holiday Season and the start of 2009, I want to express my gratitude to each of you, your families and employers for the sacrifices you make for our great country each and every day.

Much has been asked and each reservist and family member has given of themselves for their country.

You've stepped up to the challenge smartly, without hesitation.

For those who are able to celebrate this Holiday Season with friends and family at home, I ask that you remember our brave men and women who are serving around the world far from family and friends.

About 2,000 of our Air Force Reserve warriors are serving overseas with incredible distinction in global operations every day by saving lives and thwarting terrorism. The entire Air Force Reserve family has you in our hearts and looks forward to your safe return.

The holiday season provides an opportunity to remind us all to set aside time for friends and family who share and support those sacrifices.

Dee and I wish you and your families the very best this Holiday Season and for 2009! (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)



**Lt. Gen. Stenner**

## Free YMCA memberships available for families of deployed reservists

The Defense Department today signed a new contract with the National YMCA that will provide free family YMCA memberships to families of National Guard or reserve members at the more than 2,000 participating centers in local communities.

Beginning in October, free family memberships will be available for 18 months — while the servicemember is deployed — and for three months before and after the deployment. YMCAs offer fitness centers with free child-watch while the parent works out, as well as family and youth programs, swim lessons, personal development classes and more.

For more information, see the complete article at this site <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=51181>, or detailed information is available at [www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com) (Excerpt from article by John. J. Kruzel, American Forces Press Service)



## Barksdale AFB Civic Leaders visit wing



The 445th Airlift Wing hosted civic leaders from the Barksdale AFB, La. area Oct. 29-30. The tour included a dinner at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force with a performance by the Air Force Band of Flight. Local community leaders and members of Miami Valley Military Affairs Association attended the dinner as well. (Courtesy photo/Bill Richard)

## 445th there for Bengals first win of the season

The 445th Airlift Wing had a strong presence at the Cincinnati Bengals' Paul Brown Stadium Nov. 2. The 445th Honor Guard posted the colors and the wing performed an exciting C-5 Galaxy flyover before the Bengals football game. The C-5 had perfect timing flying over Paul Brown Stadium just as the National Anthem finished playing. (Courtesy photo/Cincinnati Bengals)





# Wing Commander assists Security Forces

Col. Stephen Goeman, 445th Airlift Wing commander, checks Tech. Sgt. Robert Norsworthy's I.D. card as he enters Gate 26C for the 445th Airlift Wing's Unit Training Assembly. Sergeant Norsworthy is a member of the 445th Mission Support Flight. Col. Goeman assisted the 445th Security Forces Squadron members in checking I.D.s at Gate 26C. (Air Force photo/Maj. Cynthia Harris)



## New law allows salutes in civvies during anthem

Veterans and servicemembers not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect in October.

"The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation's armed forces," said Dr. James B. Peake, secretary of Veterans Affairs. "This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation's flag."

The new provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year's provision also applied to servicemembers while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation's veterans service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization's official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed Oct. 14.

The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform servicemembers during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect Jan. 28, 2008. (Courtesy of VA News)



# Aerial Port Squadron welcomes new commander

By Maj. Cynthis Harris  
445th Public Affairs



The 87th Aerial Port Squadron held its change of command Oct 18. Col. Mary Henderhan, 445th Mission Support Group commander, presided over the ceremony in which Lt. Col. Keith D. Bond Jr. relinquished command to Maj. David W. Mohr.

The event was very emotional for Colonel Bond. Bond was assigned to the unit for more than 20 years, seven as the commander. During the event, the colonel spoke of the strength of the 87th Aerial Port Squadron and how the 87th is really a family. The event was attended by current and retired Aerial Port members.

When speaking of the unit's success, the colonel said, "I can't talk about any significant personal achievements because the credit of the unit's success goes to its people.

Colonel Bond's final words to the unit were, "thanks for the moments of memories and the years of pleasure."



Col. Mary Henderhan, 445th Mission Support Group commander, passes the guidon to Maj. David Mohr, incoming 87th Aerial Port Squadron commander, during the Change of Command ceremony as Senior Master Sgt. Robert Haye looks on. (Air Force photo/Maj. Jose Cardenas)



Maj. David Mohr, incoming 87th Aerial Port Squadron commander, and Lt. Col. Keith Bond, outgoing commander shake hands during the 87th Aerial Port Squadron Change of Command ceremony. (Air Force photo/Maj. Jose Cardenas)

When the new commander, Maj. Mohr took the stage, he praised Colonel Bond for his leadership and the level of excellence of the unit. "In order to maintain this level of excellence, I will continue to focus on our most valuable resource, the people of this great squadron. "I'll ensure your needs are met and you have the tools to complete the mission," he said.

The change of command marked one of many transitions for the unit. In addition to having a new commander, the squadron will also receive a new operations officer, superintendent and first sergeant.

Major Mohr spoke of the challenges the unit would face with transitions, upcoming deployments and preparation for the unit compliance inspection. "I challenge my officers and NCOs to step up and take on expanded roles to ensure the mission continues like only the 87th knows how, with excellence."



## Awards

*Congratulations to the following members who recently earned an award.*

### Meritorious Service Medal

Lt Col Karla Voy, 445 AES  
Maj Linda Moore, 445 MSG  
Maj Amy Swets, 445 ASTS  
SMSgt Alan Flanegin, 445 CES  
SMSgt Steven Parker, 89 AS  
SMSgt Terrence Williams, 445 MSF  
MSgt Cornell Billingsley, 445 MOF  
MSgt Clifton Bowie, 445 ALCF  
MSgt Peter Raykovich, Jr., 87 APS  
MSgt Mark Tobias, 445 AMXS  
TSgt Mark Borgerding, 445 AMXS

### Joint Commendation Medal

Capt Caroline Wellman

### Air Force Commendation Medal

TSgt Joshua Roland, 89 AS  
TSgt Dennis Thomas, Jr., 445 ALCF

### Air Force Achievement Medal

TSgt Orville Butcher, 445 AMXS  
TSgt Edwin Wiegand, 445 AMXS  
SSgt Tame Marshall, 445 AMXS  
SrA Shawn McKellop, 445 LRS

## Newcomers

*Welcome to the following reservists, recently assigned to the 445 AW:*

2Lt Jeffrey Miller, 445 AES  
TSgt Brandon Bergeron, 445 AES  
TSgt David Gunkleman, 445 AMXS  
TSgt Chance Long, 445 MXS  
SSgt Douglas Fuller, 445 MXS  
SSgt Eric Litton, 445 MXS  
SSgt Carnetta Thomas, 445 LRS  
SrA Jason Bolenbaugh, 89 AS  
SrA Bradley Garman, 445 CES  
A1C Matthew Horsley, 445 MXS  
A1C Emily Temple, 445 LRS  
Amn Lindsey Ambuehl, 445 LRS  
Amn Ryan Henderson, 87 APS  
AB Michael Blackthorn, 445 LRS  
AB Joshua Buck, 445 MSF

## Promotions

*Congratulations to the following reservists recently promoted to the rank indicated.*

### Airman

Ianto Hill, 445 LRS  
Kevin Horn, 445 SFS  
Nicholas Richards, 445 AES  
Tyler Robbins, 445 ASTS



### Airman First Class

Dawn Gettys, 445 SFS



### Senior Airman

Matthew Horsley, 445 MXS  
Sheila Moses, 445 APS  
Ann Northrup, 445 MXS  
Emily Temple, 445 LRS



### Staff Sergeant

Adam Bowersock, 445 AMXS  
Ronetta Braggs, 445 ASTS  
Amanda Duncan, 445 MOF  
James Elson, 445 AMXS  
Isaac Graham, Jr., 445 AMXS  
Shawn Johnson, 445 AMXS  
Benjamin Middlesworth, 87 APS  
Paul Mohny, 445 ASTS  
Michael Nowicke, 445 LRS  
Michael Reagan, 445 AMXS  
Michael Scinto, 445 OSS



### Technical Sergeant

Andrew Cox, 445 MXS  
Seana Creech, 445 ASTS  
Otis Crisp, Jr., 87 APS  
Paul Denton, 445 SFS  
Christopher Kuhn, 445 CES  
William Laseur, Jr., 445 AMDS  
Thomas Sexton, 445 SFS  
Gregory Shepherd, 445 SFS  
Randy Smith, 445 LRS  
Benjamin Toops, 87 APS  
Lauro Valles, Jr., 445 MXS  
Kerrie Yeager, 445 LRS



### Master Sergeant

Clifton Griffie, 445 MXS  
Micheal Hess, 445 CES  
Darrell Lawrence, 445 ASTS



### Senior Master Sergeant

James Felton, Jr., 445 AMXS  
Tommy Starnier, Jr., 445 CES



### Lieutenant Colonel

Steven Shrader, 89 AS

## AES awarded Schafer Trophy

The 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron was awarded the Lt. Gen. George E. Schafer



Trophy at the annual Association of Military Surgeons of the United States convention Nov. 12 in San Antonio, Texas. The 445th AES competed against other Air Force Reserve Command medical units. The award was presented during the Air Force Reserve Command Medical Awards Luncheon.

The Lt. Gen. George E. Schafer award was established to recognize outstanding Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Command medical units. Each numbered Air Force submits one Reserve medical unit that has been selected in each award category to represent the numbered Air Force. The Schafer Trophy alternates annually between the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve Command.



## News Briefs

### Annual VA Christmas Party

The annual VA Holiday Party is on Saturday, Dec. 6, at the VA Medical Center. Please plan to meet at the flag pole in front of Building 4010 at 10:30 a.m. If you have donations for the VA, give them to your First Sergeant or drop them off at the 445th Airlift Wing Orderly Room in Building 4010.



### Families of deployed members

If you have specific family needs during this holiday season, please allow the 445th to help.

#### Chaplain:

Capt. Jonathan Kollmann  
Office: 937-257-0589  
Cell: 937-430-0300

#### Duty First Sergeant:

MSgt John Koehl  
Office: 937-257-0062  
Cell: 937-296-3867

### Winter Weather

Winter is here and bad weather can cause hazardous driving conditions.



All wing personnel are encouraged to tune in to local radio and television stations for information on base delays or closures.

## 4th AF Command Chief helps serve holiday meals



It is an annual 445th Airlift Wing tradition for wing leadership to serve holiday meals to reservists at Pitsenbarger Dining Facility to show appreciation for the reservists hard work and dedication throughout the year. This year, 4th Air Force Command Chief Patricia Thornton (left) was here at the wing for a visit and joined Master Sgt. Denise Williams, 445th Airlift Wing first sergeant, in the serving line. (Air Force photo/Maj. Jose Cardenas)

 Seasons Greetings

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